

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-09 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-10 NEA-10
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /119 W
----- 018209 /17

R 152306Z DEC 76
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1722
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY SUVA
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

UNCLAS USUN 6194

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, PORG, UNGA, WS
SUBJECT: 31ST UNGA: WESTERN SAMOA ADMITTED TO UN, DECEMBER
15, 1976

RF: USUN 5918

1. UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY ADOPTED RESOLUTION BY ACCLAIM
DECEMBER 15 ON ADMISSION OF INDEPENDENT STATE OF WESTERN
SAMOA TO MEMBERSHIP IN UN.

2. HEAD OF DELEGATION TUPUA TAMASESE LEALOFI IV SPOKE FOR
SAMOA (TEXT BY SEPTTEL). TAMASESE UNDERLINED HIS COUNTRY'S
LONG TRADITION OF INDEPENDENCE AND ITS PLEASURE AT JOINING UN.
HE SAID THAT, DURING PERIOD SINCE DATE OF WESTERN SAMOA'S
RETURN TO INDEPENDENCE IN 1962, SAMOA HAD HAD MUCH TO ATTEND
TO INTERNALLY, BUT NOW SAMOA WAS PREPARED TO PLAY A FULL
ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS.

3. OTHER SPEAKERS WERE: US, CANADA, AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND
(INTRODUCED RESOLUTION), PAPUA NEW GUINEA, JAPAN, MALTA
(FOR WEO GROUP), FIJI (FOR ASIAN GROUP), BULGARIA (FOR
EASTERN EUROPEAN GROUP), DEMOCRATIC YEMEN (FOR ARAB
LEAGUE), MADAGASCAR (FOR AFRICAN GROUP), AND GUYANA
(FOR LATIN AMERICAN GROUP).

4. TEXT OF RESOLUTION FOLLOWS (UN DOCUMENT A/31/L.32):
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ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS

AUSTRALIA, BAHAMAS, BANGALDESH, BARBADOS, CANADA, CHINA, CYPRUS, FIJI, GERMANY, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF, GHANA, GUYANA, INDIA, INDONESIA, IRAN, JAMAICA, JAPAN, KENYA, LESOTHO, MALAWI, MALAYSIA, MALTA, NW ZEALAND, NIGERIA, PAPUA NW GUINEA, PHILIPPINES, SIERRA LEONE, SINGAPORE, SRI LANKA, SWAZILAND, THAILAND, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, UGANDA, UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND, UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, YUGOSLAVIA AND ZAMBIA: DRAFT RESOLUTION

ADMISSION OF THE INDEPENDENT STATE OF WESTERN SAMOA TO MEMBERSHIP IN THE UNITED NATIONS

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING RECEIVED THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL OF 1 DECEMBER 1976 THAT THE INDEPENDENT STATE OF WESTERN SAMOA SHOULD BE ADMITTED TO MEMBERSHIP IN THE UNITED NATIONS

/A/31/369./

HAVING CONSIDERED THE APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP OF THE INDEPENDENT STATE OF WESTERN SAMOA/A/31/364-S/12245./,

DECIDES TO ADMIT THE INDEPENDENT STATE OF WESTERN SAMOA TO MEMBERSHIP IN THE UNITED NATIONS.

5. TEXT OF GOVERNOR SCRANTON'S WELCOMING SPEECH FOLLOWS:

MY COUNTRY HAS BEEN ESPECIALLY HAPPY TO CO-SPONSOR THE RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE ADMISSION OF THE INDEPENDENT STATE OF WESTERN SAMOA WHICH HAS BECOME THE 147TH MEMBER OF THE UNITED NATIONS. SINCE IT BECAME A SOVEREIGN STATE, WESTERN SAMOA HAS PLAYED A VERY POSITIVE ROLE AMONG THE COMMUNITY OF NATIONS IN THE PACIFIC OCEAN AREA. WE WELCOME SAMOA'S DECISION TO JOIN US HERE IN THE SEARCH FOR A PEACEFUL AND MORE STABLE WORLD. THE NATIONS OF THE PACIFIC HAVE A UNIQUE PERSPECTIVE TO GIVE US ALL. THOSE WHICH ARE ISLAND STATES UNDERSTAND PARTICULARLY WELL THE PROBLEMS OF ISOLATION AND THE NEED FOR COOPERATION AMONG NATIONS. WE WELCOME THIS PERSPECTIVE AND ITS VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION TO THE WORK OF THIS ORGANIZATION. WE EXTEND WARM GREETINGS TO HIS EXCELLENCY UNCLASSIFIED

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TUPUA TAMASESE AND HIS DELEGATION.

THE PEOPLE OF POLYNESIA HAVE A LONG TRADITION OF COURAGE, DEEP AND ABIDING COURAGE. OUR OWN STATE OF HAWAII AND THE NEIGHBORING PEOPLE OF AMERICAN SAMOA ARE PART OF THE GREATER POLYNESIAN WORLD. WE VALUE HIGHLY THE ELEMENTS OF COMMON LANGUAGE, CULTURE AND HISTORY WHICH WE SHARE. WE DEEPLY RESPECT THE STRONG COMMITMENTS OF THE PEOPLE OF POLYNESIA

TO THEIR OWN TRADITIONS AND CULTURE. OUR COUNTRY HAS BEEN ENRICHED BY THESE TRADITIONS AND WE KNOW THAT THE UNITED NATIONS TOO WILL BE THE RICHER THROUGH THE MEMBERSHIP OF SAMOA.

THE UNITED STATES HAS WORKED CLOSELY WITH WESTERN SAMOA IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION AND RECOGNIZES WESTERN SAMOA'S VALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC FORUM. ONE OF THE HALLMARKS, OF THOSE BODIES HAS BEEN THE TALENT OF THE ISLAND PEOPLES OF THE PACIFIC IN WORKING OUT MUTUALLY AGREEABLE SOLUTIONS. WE HOPE THAT IN THIS LARGER FORUM ALL OF US HERE MAY ALSO PROFIT FROM THIS TALENT.

MAY I CLOSE IN SAYING, MR. PRESIDENT, TO OUR NEWEST MEMBER, TALOFA LAVA.
SCRANTON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEMBER ADMISSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976USUNN06194
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760462-1023
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761239/aaaabhkx.tel
Line Count: 131
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: schwenja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 JUN 2004 by hattaycs>; APPROVED <24 AUG 2004 by schwenja>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: 31ST UNGA: WESTERN SAMOA ADMITTED TO UN, DECEMBER 15, 1976 RF: USUN 5918
TAGS: PFOR, PORG, WS, UNGA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006